

seemed she always had to deny herself some little things she wanted.

Wednesday night the girl was tired out after the long day's work, but she couldn't sleep. She tossed about in her bed all night long, and when morning came she didn't go to work.

Instead she told her mother she was sick, and when the aged parent left the house that morning she ran to the bathroom and swallowed ten mercury tablets. Three are enough to cause death.

They hurried her to the private hospital of Dr. Katherine Corcoran at 3159 W. Jackson blvd. and gave her treatment to save the life she was willing to cast off. When she was able to speak she told the doctors of her struggle to get along and her failure to find happiness.

The hospital where she now lay was a private one—a place for people with money and not for State street department store girls. So they called the ambulance of the Fillmore street police station.

On the long, jerky ride to the County hospital, where all poor people are taken in, Miss Wells told Dr. E. A. Aisenstadt about her failure to live fairly with a slim pay envelope between her and starvation.

The doctor helped carry her into the big hospital that cares even for State street salesgirls. Then he went back to the station and wrote a report to his chief. "Lack of money for rent and necessities" was one of the reasons to which he ascribed her death attempt.

There were other causes for her despondency, he explained in his report, but dread of the pinching, grinding life of a State street shop girl was the big reason.

Chas. A. Stevens & Bros. own the great building between Mandel's and Marshall Field's, on State street. It runs through to Wabash av.

The Stevens are rich, every one of them. They have a dozen automobiles in the family to make sure

that none of them may have to walk about in the midwinter slush.

They go to church, nearly every one of them. Chas. A., member of the Stevens firm, is one of the "pillars" of St. Paul's Universalist church, at 30th and Prairie av. He pays his share of the \$5,000 salary they give their minister for his Sabbath sermon.

He's a good church man. He sends his son and daughter to church almost every week and they both sit through the sermon and then teach Sunday school afterward.

A. Stevens used to be leader in this same Sunday school. Many times he stood up before the little children and sang from hymn books. Then he led them in prayer.

His son later was head of the church school on Sunday and manager of the girls at Stevens' all week long. He has always been a good boy; went through college with a spotless record.

But then this is a story about Gertrude Wells, 23, who tried suicide. Despondent. Lack of money.

PRESIDENT MAY WITHDRAW GARRISON ARMY PLAN

Washington, Jan. 22.—President Wilson will not insist upon creation of Sec'y Garrison's proposed continental army if it threatens the whole program, according to information today of administration leaders in congress.

The president is, however, adamant against Sen. Chamberlain's compulsory military education plan, according to the same sources.

Sec'y Garrison is still vigorously fighting for the continental army scheme, but the president has advised the congressional leaders that while he believes it to be the best citizen reserve plan yet advanced, he is not willing that it shall imperil the entire army program.

1916 auto show opens Coliseum tonight.